*Financial Secretary Mr. George*:—

"Sir,

With reference to the interpellation (No. III) of Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai at the meeting of the Council held on the 7th April 1920, I now lay on the table the statement required by him regarding the number and value of coins and currency notes of different denominations constituting the Treasury Balances at the commencement of 1095 and the four preceding years."

*President*:—"The next item in the agenda is the interpellations and answers. The Non-Official Members of the Council will, please, put the interpellations in the order in which they are noted against their names."

## Interpellation.

*Mr. N. Kumaran Asan.*

1. I. Are not the Government aware that there has been an ever-growing feeling of discontent among the Ezhavas and the other so called non-caste Hindus, who form the bulk of His Highness' Hindu subjects, since even their ordinary rights of citizenship are still withheld in many respects and since they are unnecessarily put to various inconveniences and troubles and also to humiliation on social basis? If they are,

(1) will they be pleased to order—

(*a*) the immediate removal of the boards put on public roads leading to, but in many instances far removed even from, the outer walls of certain temples, prohibiting such people from using them; and

(*b*) the discontinuance of such prohibition in future?

(2) Will they be pleased also to declare all public schools, satroms and other public buildings thrown open to them without distinction and thus allow them at least the freedom and the privileges which would be theirs at the moment they become converts to Christianity?

2. II. In view of the fact that repeated orders from Government which directed the Heads of Departments to accord preferential treatment to the applications for posts from Ezhavas and other disfavoured communities have failed to have any effect worth mentioning on some Departmental Heads, will the Government be now pleased, as a further and more effective step, to call upon each Department, major or minor, to maintain a register showing—

## Answer.

*Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.*

The answer is in the negative.

(*a*) & (*b*). If specific instances are given, Government will enquire.

(2) The avowed policy of the Government has been to throw open, to all classes of His Highness' subjects, all public schools and satroms, as far as possible. Wherever, on account of proximity of temples or other causes, it is not possible to give effect to this policy in regard to public schools, arrangements are being made to provide buildings in places accessible to all classes. As regards satroms, the Member is referred to G. O. No. P. W. 1790 A, dated the 19th March 1913, published on pages 585 and 586 of Part I of the Gazette dated the 8th April 1913.

Until specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government, no definite action can be taken.

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